



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND CABLE**

D.T.C. 21-1

July 1, 2021

Petition of Starlink Services, LLC for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier

**ORDER ON MOTION FOR CLARIFICATION, WAIVER, OR EXTENSION OF TIME
REGARDING CONDITIONS IN THE ETC DESIGNATION ORDER**

On June 17, 2021, Starlink Services, LLC (“Starlink”) responded to the Department of Telecommunications and Cable’s (“Department”) Final Order in this proceeding (“Order”) with a Motion for Clarification, Waiver, or Extension of Time Regarding Conditions in the ETC Designation Order (“Motion”). Starlink argued that the initial 60-day filing requirement¹ for eligible telecommunications carriers (“ETCs”), adopted in D.T.C. 13-4 and reproduced on page 17 of the Order, is impractical for Starlink because “[t]he requirements are not designed for the situation here – where state ETC designation is a necessary prerequisite for the receipt of federal funding, but . . . commencement of service is not imminent, and many details of the service offerings remain under development.” Motion at 3. The Department acknowledges Starlink’s concerns and directs Starlink to supply the information previously required within 60 days of designation as soon as it becomes available and prior to commencing Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (“RDOF”) service in Massachusetts. The Department agrees with Starlink that because it is not yet offering Lifeline service, “there is no consumer interest to protect and no prejudice to

¹ See Massachusetts Lifeline Requirement A(1), available at <https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2018/03/27/Lifeline%20Requirements%20for%20ETCs.pdf>.

customers' interest by not having [the] information until later than 60 days from issuance of the Order, but still before service is offered." Motion at 5.

Thus, Starlink's motion to extend the 60-day requirement is GRANTED, and Starlink is directed to file the information in Massachusetts Lifeline Requirement A(1) as soon as the information becomes available and prior to Starlink's commencement of RDOF service in Massachusetts.

By Order of the Department,



Karen Charles Peterson, Commissioner

RIGHT OF APPEAL

Pursuant to G.L. c. 25, § 5, and G.L. c. 166A, § 2, an appeal as to matters of law from any final decision, order or ruling of the Department may be taken to the Supreme Judicial Court for the County of Suffolk by an aggrieved party in interest by the filing of a written petition asking that the Order of the Department be modified or set aside in whole or in part. Such petition for appeal shall be filed with the Secretary of the Department within twenty (20) days after the date of service of the decision, order or ruling of the Department, or within such further time as the Department may allow upon request filed prior to the expiration of the twenty (20) days after the date of service of said decision, order or ruling. Within ten (10) days after such petition has been filed, the appealing party shall enter the appeal in the Supreme Judicial Court for the County of Suffolk by filing a copy thereof with the Clerk of said Court. Appeals of Department Orders on basic service tier cable rates, associated equipment, or whether a franchising authority has acted consistently with the federal Cable Act may also be brought pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 76.944.